

EP!

The Environmental Protector!

EP is a desert tortoise. He has been adopted as the mascot of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA), Office of Research & Development (ORD), National Exposure Research Laboratory (NERL), **Environmental Sciences Division (ESD)**, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Visit the ESD website at <http://www.epa.gov/nerlesd1/>

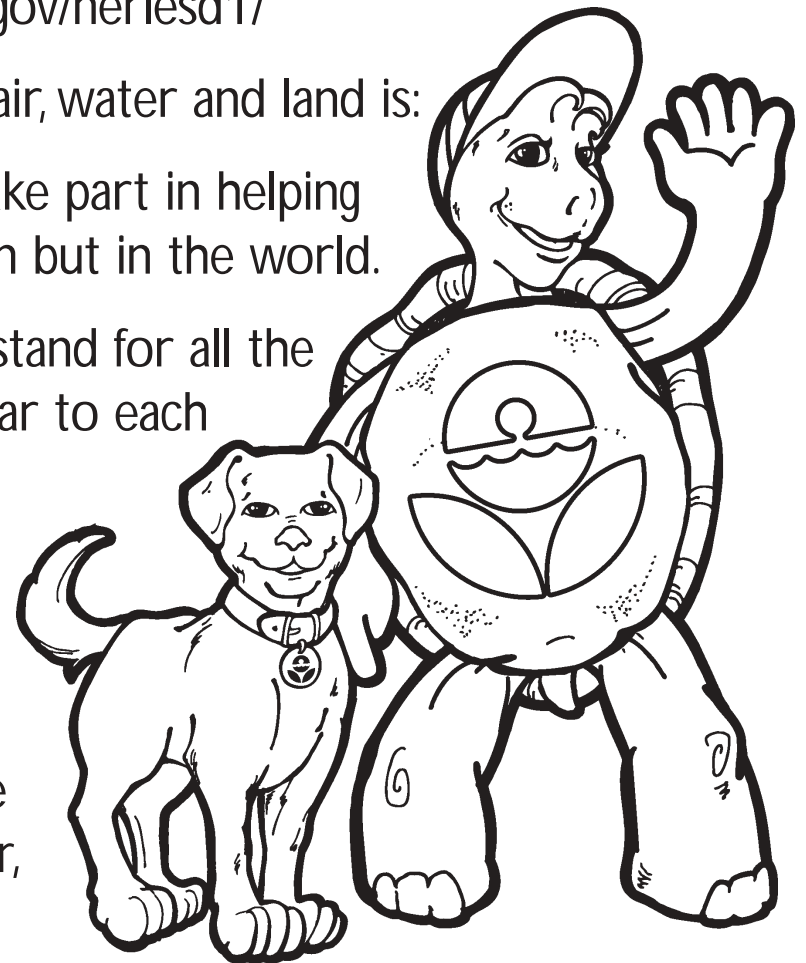
One motto the EPA uses in its battle to protect our air, water and land is:

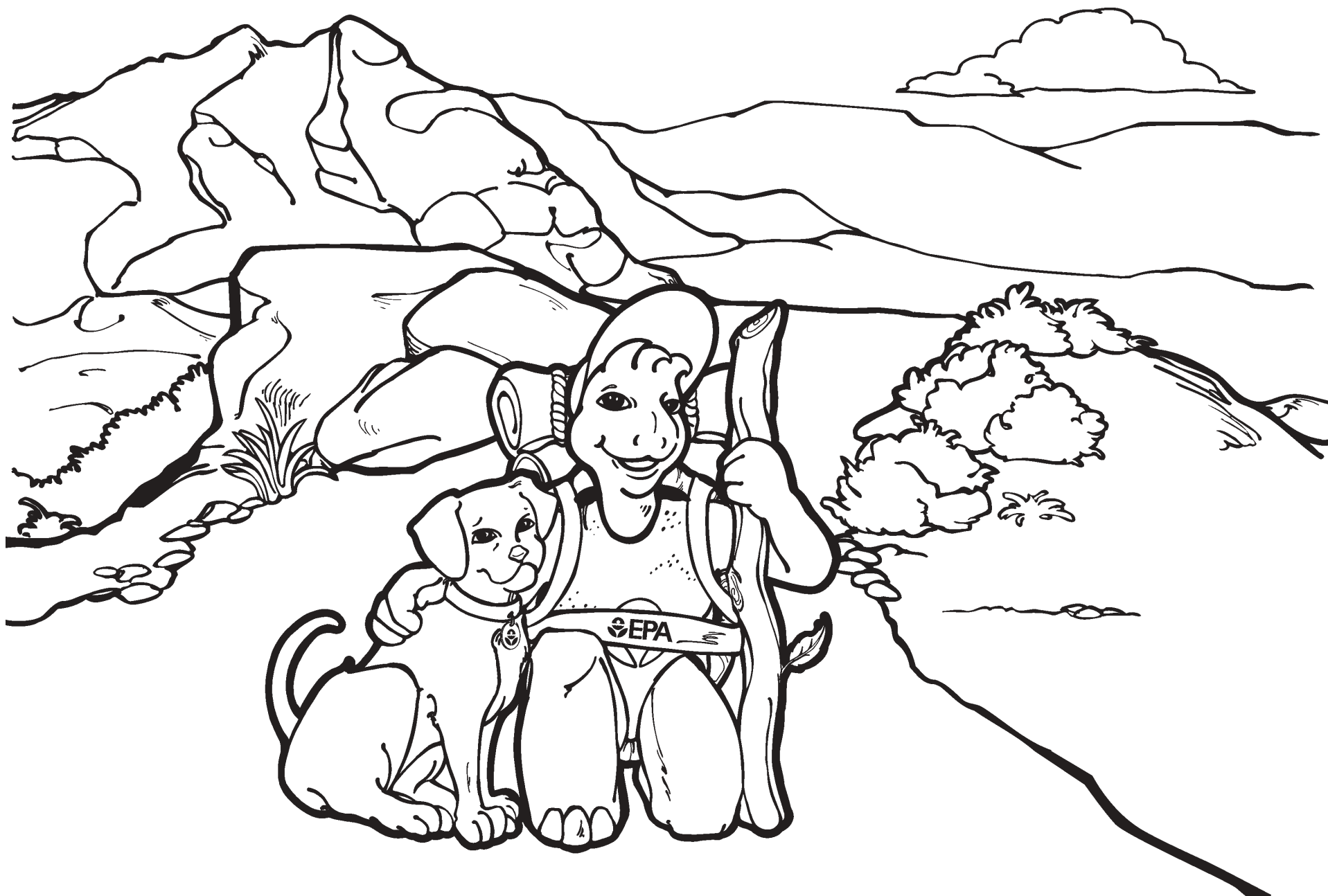
“Think Globally ... Act Locally,” meaning you can take part in helping protect the environment, not only in your hometown but in the world.

“Globally,” EP’s shell is like the Earth. His shell plates stand for all the continents of the world and show how they are similar to each other, like all of us are.

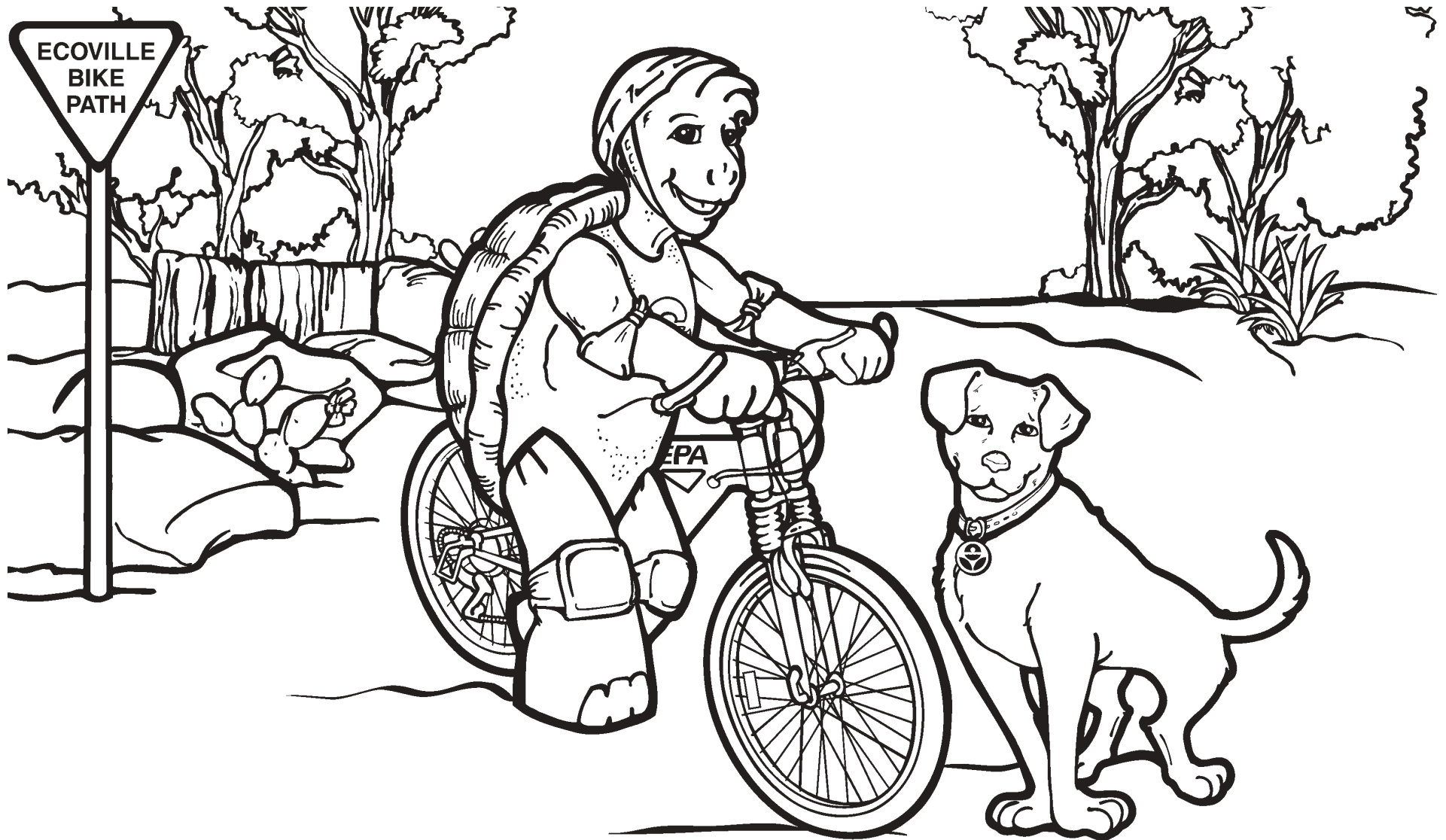
Locally, EP is in danger of disappearing completely from the Nevada desert and he is showing all of us how delicate our world really is.

EP may seem to move slowly, but he will win the race! He will complete his goal of making the air, water and land clean and safe for all of us.

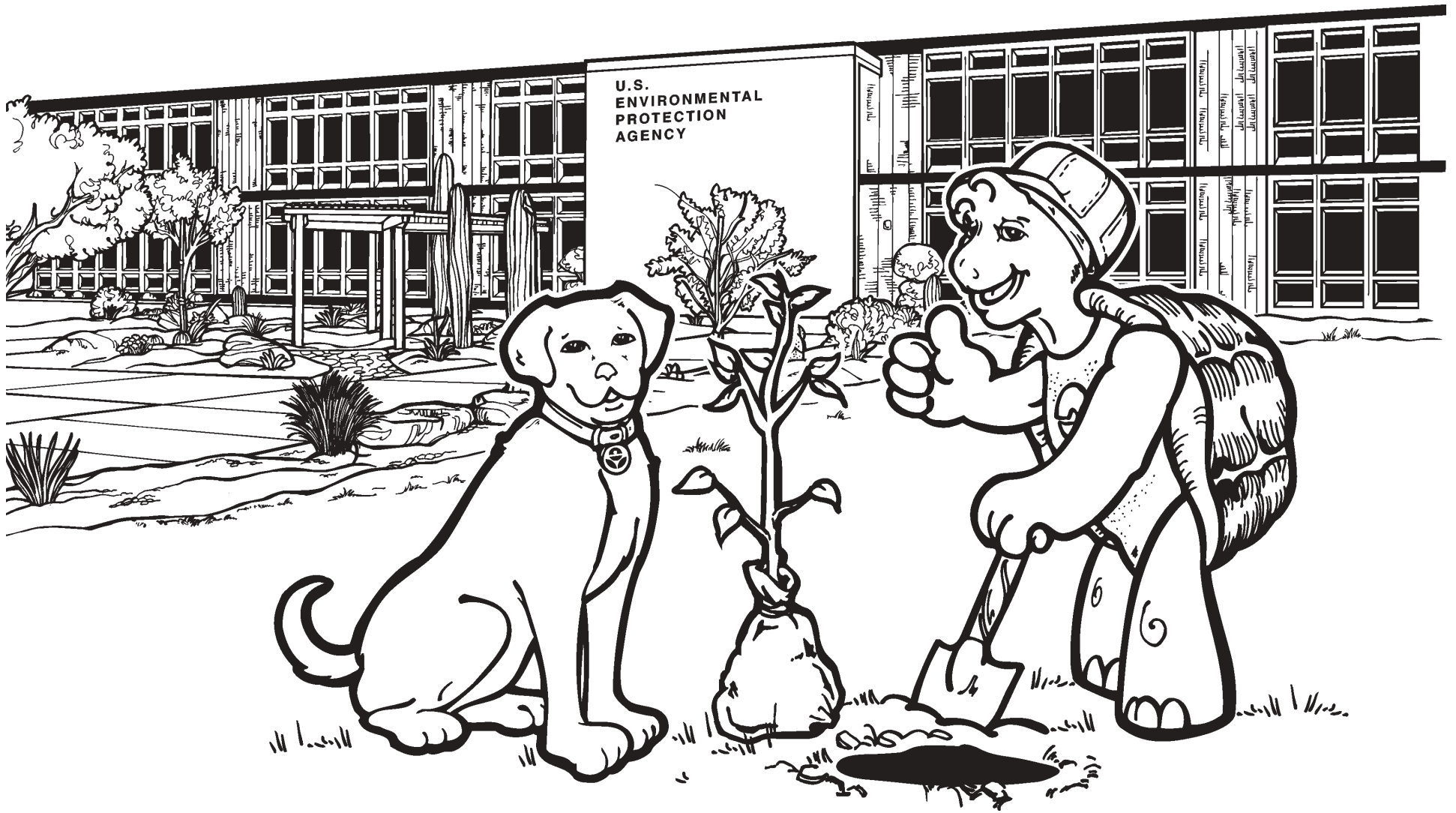




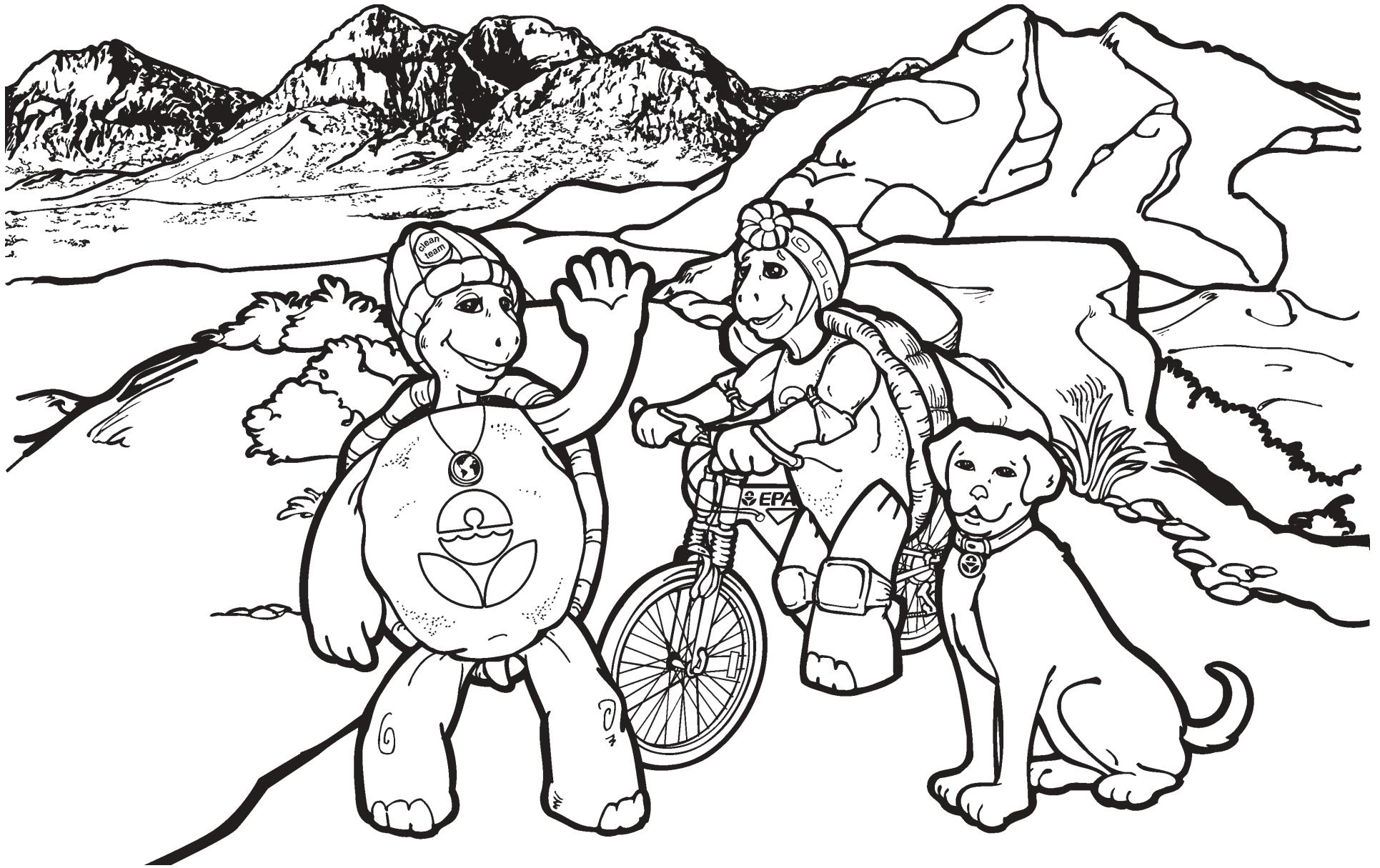
ESD is proud to have you meet our mascot ...
EP! ...The Environmental Protector and his faithful dog, Eco!



Environment is a big word. Do you know what an “environment” is? The environment is where we all live, work and play. It’s the water we drink, the ground we stand on and the air we breathe. Everyone on Earth shares the same environment. It’s very important that all of us work to keep our environment clean, because when it is dirty we all suffer.



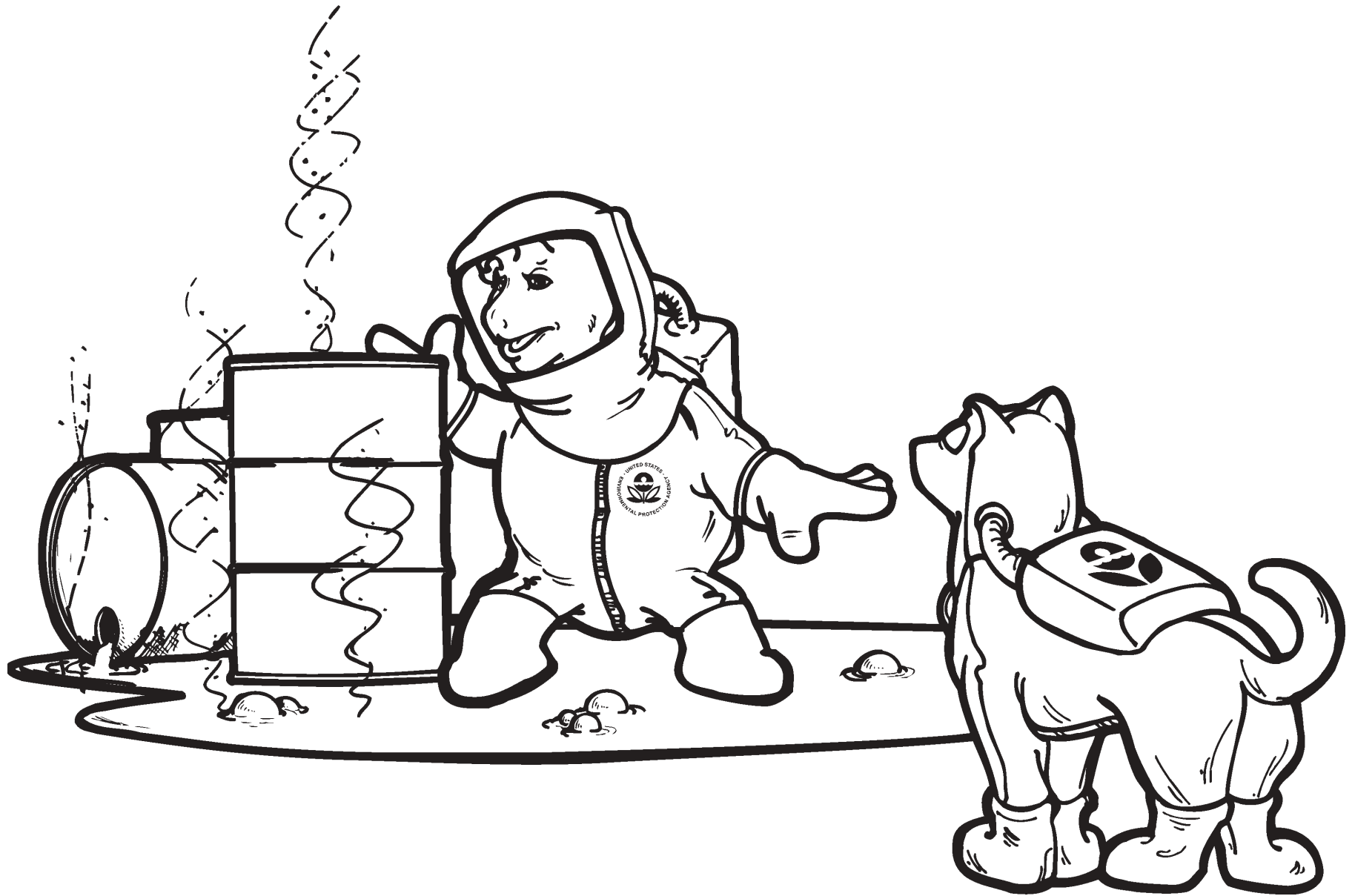
EP and Eco are planting trees in front of our laboratory, located on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). Trees help clean the air. You can help EP by planting trees around your house. You will find there are many ways to help EP.



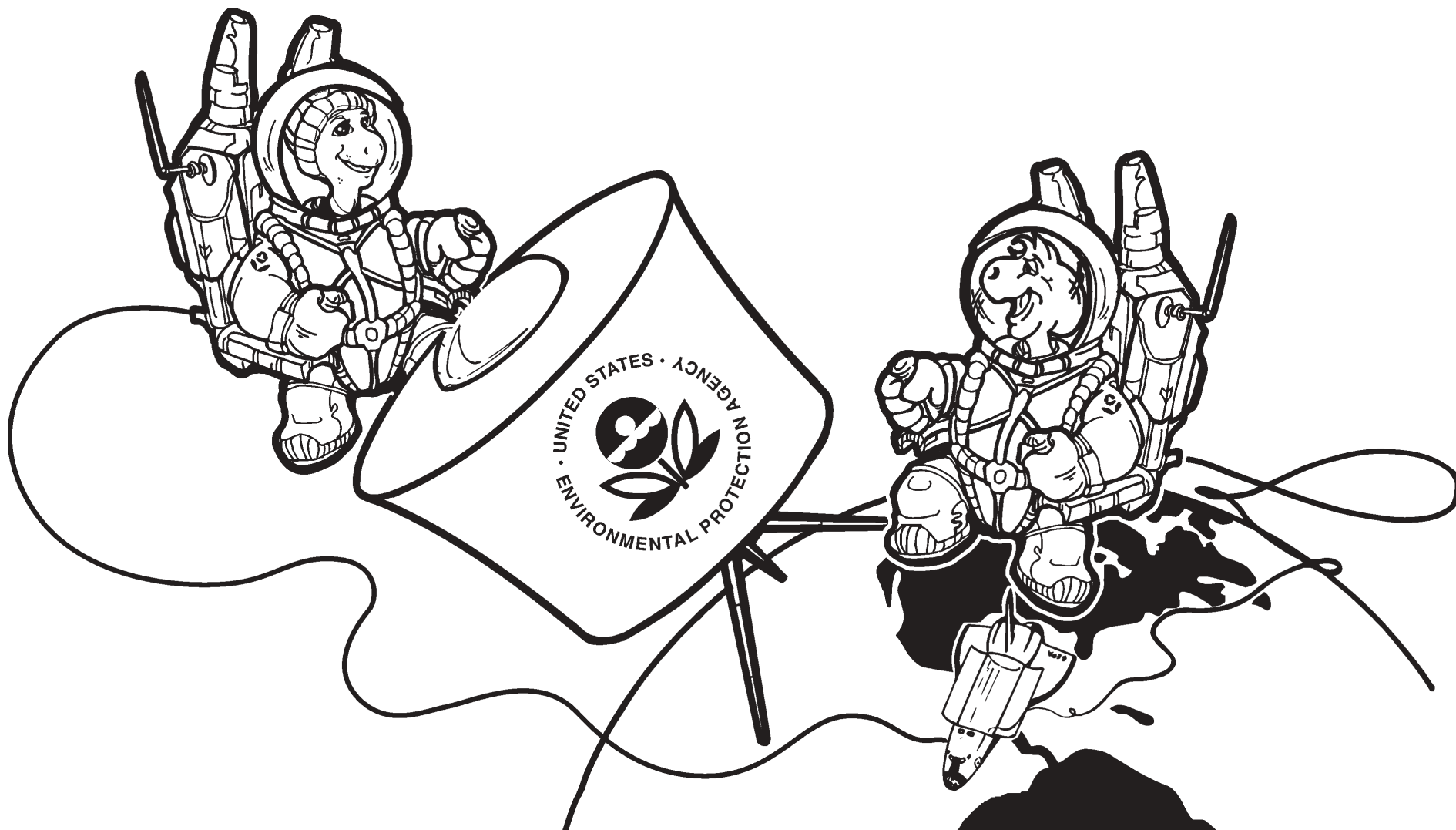
Working at the laboratory and keeping Ecoville clean keep EP very busy. His friends, the Tortoise Kids, help EP and Eco make sure everything is all right. As members of the "Clean Team," they help EP find new ways to reduce, reuse and recycle.



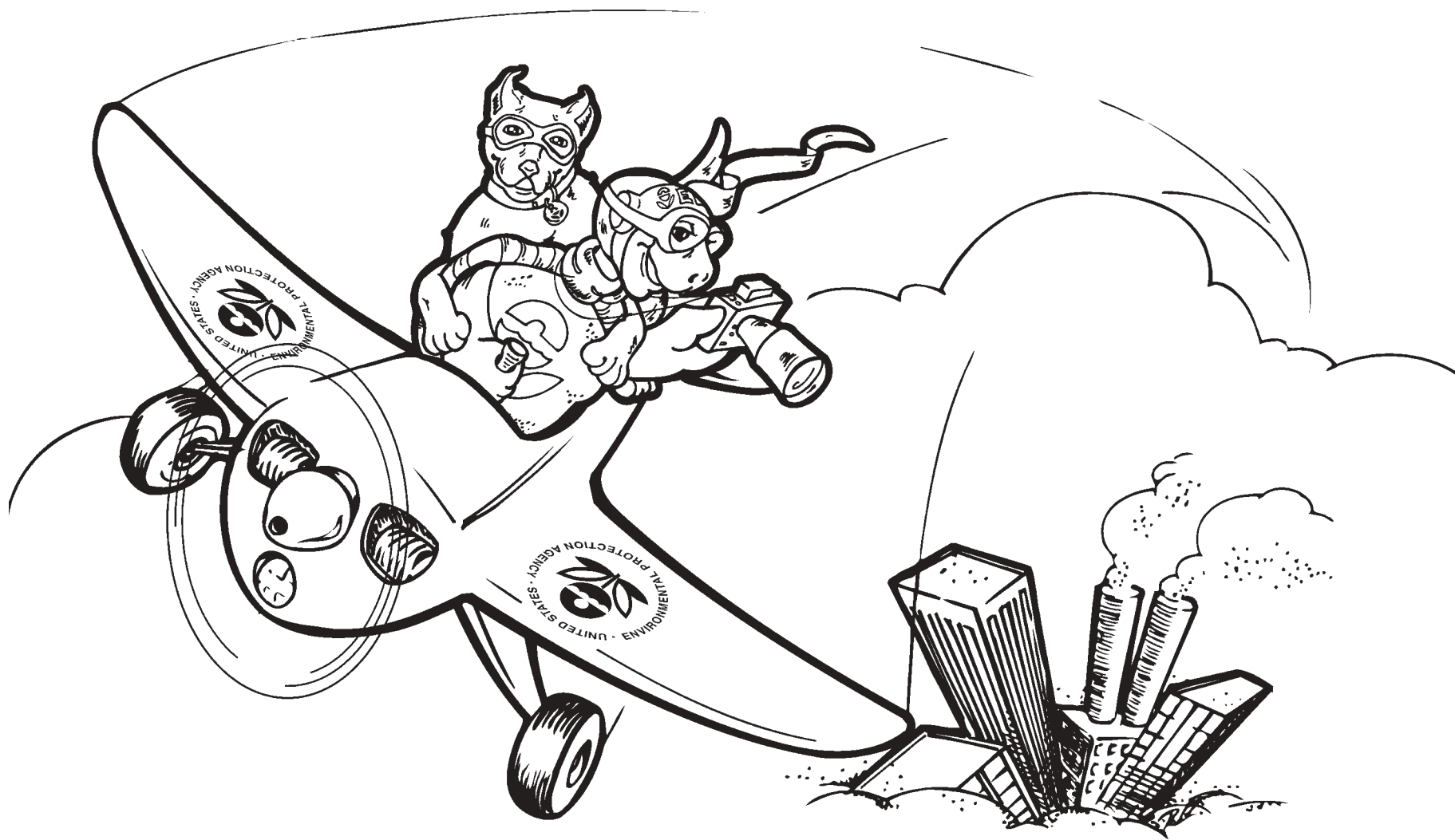
EP studies water samples to make sure that it is safe to drink.
We must all work toward keeping our water clean.



EP and Eco check places to see if drums filled with chemicals are leaking into the environment. If chemicals are not stored safely, they can be harmful to all of us and the environment.



EP and his friends also work in space.
They know that “global pollution” can be harmful to everybody on the Earth.



EP and Eco are very concerned about dirty air.
Another word for dirty air is air "pollution." Air pollution hurts our environment.
Breathing dirty air can make us sick.

What can **YOU** do to help EP protect our environment?

